

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

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FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2536

INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ACCRA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LOURENCO MARQUES PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 2493

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR ZA AO NI

SUBJECT: ZAMBIANS HOPE TO CHANGE NIGERIAN STAND ON ANGOLA

1. MARK CHONA, PRES KAUNDA'S POLITICAL ADVISER, TOLD ME IN CONVERSATION AT STATE HOUSE DEC 20 THAT AT CIEC MEETING IN PARIS, ZAMBIAN FONMIN BANDA AND HE HAD OPPORTUNITY TO TALK WITH MEA COMMISSIONER GARBA OF NIGERIA IN ATTEMPT TO POINT OUT ERROR OF NIGERIAN WAYS IN HAVING RECOGNIZED MPLA.

2. CHONA SAID HE MADE FOLLOWING POINTS TO GARBA. ANGOLA BECAME SOVEREIGN, INDEPENDENT STATE NOV 11 AND THE THREE CONTENDING LIBERATION MOVEMENTS THEREUPON CEASED TO HAVE "RAISON D'ETRE" AS LIBERATION MOVEMENTS PER SE, BECOMING POLITICAL PARTIES OVERNIGHT, EACH CONTENDING FOR A PLACE IN POLITICAL SPECTRUM. FOR SOVIET UNION TO POUR IN ARMS, EQUIPMENT AND CUBAN SOLDIERS TO MPLA WHICH IN FACT HAS CONTROL OF ONLY
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SMALL FRACTION OF POPULATION AND TERRITORY OF THIS

SOVEREIGN, INDEPENDENT STATE WAS TANTAMOUNT TO A FOREIGN POWER SUPPORTING POLITICAL DOMINANCE BY A MINORITY GROUP. THIS WAS CONTRARY TO OAU DOCTRINE BASED ON PRINCIPLES OF MAJORITY RULE AND SELF-DETERMINATION. CHONA SAID HE TOLD GARBA OAU HAD MADE A MISTAKE IN NOT HAVING ANTICIPATED ANGOLAN INDEPENDENCE AND WITHDRAWN ITS RECOGNITION OF MPLA AND ALL OTHER LIBERATION MOVEMENTS BEFORE THE COUNTRY BECAME SOVEREIGN NOV 11. HOWEVER, THAT WAS WATER OVER DAM BUT PERHAPS SITUATION COULD BE RECTIFIED AT OAU MEETING IN JAN.

3. FURTHERMORE, CHONA SAID HE TOLD GARBA THAT NIGERIA WAS MAKING A SERIOUS MISTAKE NOT TO SEE THROUGHT SOVIET INTENTIONS FOR WHAT THEY REALLY WERE, BOTH IN STRAIGHT POLITICAL TERMS AND AS REGARDS FOR FUTURE OF ANGOLA IF SOVIETS ALLOWED TO GAIN STRANGLEHOLD OVER ONE ANGOLAN LEADER AND ONE POLITICAL PARTY AND FOOTHOLD IN AFRICA. MPLA WAS BOUND TO BECOME SOVIET PUPPET.

4. CHONA SAID GARBA SEEMED IMPRESSED WITH HIS PRESENTATION, COMMENTED THAT NEITHER HE NOR OTHER NIGERIAN OFFICIALS HAD SEEN ANGOLAN SITUATION IN THIS LIGHT, WOULD TAKE ANOTHER LOOK AT THEIR POLICY, AND MIGHT EVEN CHANGE.

5. CHONA'S CONVERSATION WITH GARBA, PRES KAUNDA'S PROMISING CONVERSATION WITH GHANAIA FOM IN NAIROBI DURING KENYA INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATIONS, AND MEETING OF MINDS AMONG NYERERE, MACHEL AND KAUNDA AT DAR DEC 14 (SEPTEL) MAY BE SOME OF REASONS WHY ZAMBIANS ARE NOW HOPEFUL AND CONFIDENT THEY CAN FIND A WAY OF RESISTING PRO-MPLA RECOGNITION DRIVE PRIOR TO OAU MEETING IN JAN. WILKOWSKI

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